Thank you for your co-operation over these past weeks. Fr Martin has received many comments and e-mails from people praising the orderly, safe and reverent manner in which people are gathering for the celebration of Mass during this time of pandemic.

Although the “feel” of Sunday Mass is not what we have been used to, we know that Christ is in our midst, feeding us with His living word and the greatest gift of His own Body and Blood. It is this nourishment that alone gives us the grace to live our Christian discipleship, to be witnesses to hope and to prepare our souls for eternal life.

A special word of thank to our ushers and stewards who have given so generously of their time to make sure the Cathedral is open for prayer and Holy Mass. The whole parish community is indebted to them.

GENERAL PARISH NEWS

FACEMASKS. It is now a legal requirement that facemasks or face coverings must be worn when entering all places of worship. Please make sure that you bring your facemask with you and that you wear it so that it covers both your mouth and nose.

A FULLER VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER can be found on the website at www.cathedral-brentwood.org.
MASS TIMES, MASS INTENTIONS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday Masses are now being celebrated in the Cathedral. For weekday Masses which are not currently being celebrated in the Cathedral, these are being said by our priests in private for the intentions. The full list of intentions can be found on the Cathedral Website.

VOCATIONS Please remember in your prayers Michael Barwick who was ordained a deacon on Saturday. May the Lord richly bless his ministry and his continuing preparation for ordination to the priesthood.

For more information about serving Christ and His Church go to https://www.brentwoodvocations.co.uk/

BEIRUT EMERGENCY APPEAL Hundreds of people have been killed and a quarter of a million people were made homeless in the recent explosions. A country already struggling with huge issues of poverty, with one in four of the population being a refugee (many from Syria or Palestine), and also coping with Covid. Please give as generously as you can through CAFOD https://cafod.org.uk/

PARISH OFFICE The parish office has now reopened. However, you should only come to the office if it is a very urgent matter or, if you have an appointment with a member of clergy; otherwise, we would ask at this time that you email or phone instead.

Until further notice, the parish office opening hours will be Monday through to Thursday (8.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.) each week. Emails and enquiries will be dealt with as swiftly as possible.

PLEASE NOTE the parish office will be closed on Monday 17th August.

WEEKDAY MASSES will be celebrated every Monday and Friday at 9.15 a.m. Please wear a face mask.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of those who died recently: Fr Tom Jordan, Conrad Joy, Dennis Menezes and Sr Kathleen Gorham.

May they all rest in the peace of Christ and rise again in glory.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER IN THE CATHEDRAL The Cathedral will be open for private prayer every weekday from Monday – Friday from 9.00 a.m. – 7.00 p.m. Please note that the Cathedral will be closed for private prayer at the weekends.

250 CLUB Our congratulations go to the following winners: John Murphy (January draw), Christine Turner (February draw), P Ryan (March draw), David Worsfold (April draw) Lorraine Cowley (May draw) who each win £50; also Mary Cassidy (June draw £300) and Sarah and Simon Conrad and Matt Barry (June draw £100 each)

If you would like to be in with a chance of winning and support the parish, please contact Pat Austin at pat@familyaustin.co.uk or call on 07733 103588. Subscription is £1 per number per month. Payment can be made monthly, quarterly or annually.

GREEN GUARDIAN GROUP During lockdown many of us have sought pleasure from the natural world and this summer the Brentwood Cathedral Green Guardian group would love you to share your photos and videos with us. Maybe you have built a bug hotel, spotted a hedgehog in your garden, taken delight in a double rainbow – the possibilities are endless and however you have found joy in God’s creation please share them with us so we can post them on our Instagram account.
We will be posting different activities over the summer to give you some ideas, so be sure to follow us on Instagram (@bcgreenguardians). Please tag us in your photos or send them to greenguardiansbrentwood@gmail so that we can post them on Instagram. And if you haven’t taken that photo/video just yet then this summer is a perfect time to appreciate the glory of our common home and to share that joy with others.

PARISH FINANCES During this time of the Covid-19 pandemic, a number of parishioners have enquired about making online donations to support the continued running of the parish. Contributions can now be made via a page on the Brentwood Diocesan website at and selecting General Offertory. The information sent via this website is secure and covered by GDPR.

https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=brentwood

You can, if you prefer, make a payment directly into the parish bank account using online banking. You will need to set up the Brentwood Cathedral Parish as a payee on your online banking app or internet page. The Parish Bank details are as follows:

HSBC PLC, High Street, Brentwood, Essex
Account Name: Brentwood Cathedral
Sort Code: 40-13-22
Account Number: 30217492

If you use this method, please put your Surname and Initial as a reference. If you are part of our Gift Aid scheme, then please also add your Gift Aid number (GA); for example: SmithJ GA 999. By entering this reference our Gift Aid Organiser will be able to make sure that your donation is increased in line with the Gift Aid regulations.

If you don’t pay tax you can still set up a standing order or pay via online methods. Alternatively, you can deliver your offertory envelopes through the presbytery letterbox with cheques made payable to Brentwood Cathedral Parish. For more information on the present state of parish finances go to https://cathedralbrentwood.org/donations/. Thank you for your continued support.

COVID-19 AND THE CATHEDRAL

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What is the most important things to remember at this time? If you or a member of your household have any of the symptoms of Covid-19 you should stay at home. Please do not come to the Cathedral.

2. Do I have to “book” in order to attend? No, just arrive fifteen minutes or so before Mass begins.

3. Will I be able to sit in my usual spot or wherever I like? No. You will have to wait to be seated by an usher. You will have no choice in where you sit. In this way, we will maintain social distancing and ensure that we can safely seat the maximum number of people.

4. Will I be able to use the toilets? No. The toilets will be locked. Please make sure that you go to the toilet before coming to Mass.

5. Will the Cathedral be cleaned? Yes. The Cathedral is cleaned every day and on Saturday and Sunday there will be an especially thorough clean of the Cathedral. We are employing a professional cleaning company to do this work. The Cathedral will also be cleaned by ushers between each Mass.

6. Which doors must I use to enter the Cathedral? The doors of the Cathedral narthex and the doors at the toilet/west end of the Cathedral.

7. What is the first thing that I must do when I arrive? Sanitise your hands. Please use a single pump of the hand sanitiser.

8. And the next thing? Please put on your face mask or covering which needs to cover your nose and mouth. This must be worn throughout the celebration of Mass for the safety of the whole community.
9. And then what will happen? You must wait to be seated by one of the ushers. Once you are seated, please do not move from your seat.

10. Will I be able to receive Holy Communion or come up for a blessing? We are now able to receive Christ’s Body and Blood but at this point under “one kind”, that is, the consecrated host which, of course, contains the fullness of Christ’s divine life and love. You will be guided by the ushers, row by row, and in an orderly and prayerful fashion to receive Holy Communion.

Please maintain social distancing as you process to receive our Lord.

Please receive our Lord’s Body on the throne made with the palms of your hands. You cannot receive on the tongue at this time.

Hold your arms at full length and have your palms flat so that the priest or Minister of Holy Communion can place the Body of Christ onto your palm for you to consume reverently.

Holy Communion will be distributed in silence.

If you are coming up for a blessing please stand a good distance away from the minister with your hands across your chest and you will receive a simple blessing in silence.

If you are not receiving Holy Communion or a blessing, you must also come up and follow the people on your row back to your seat. In this way, people will not have to step over or pass close to you as they return from receiving Holy Communion.

11. Which doors must I use to exit the Cathedral? The main doors of the Cathedral, the doors of Mercy behind the choir stalls and the emergency fire doors at corner of the west end of the Cathedral. Please leave the Cathedral in an orderly fashion, being particularly aware of social distancing. Please hand sanitise as you leave. Please take a newsletter home with you or go online for the newsletter.

12. What about my offering for the running and support of the parish? Some people have experienced financial hardship during the lockdown and face uncertain financial futures. Our parish has also experienced the challenge of very reduced finances which is a serious concern. We thank you for the offering you give today. There will be boxes for you to place your offering in as you leave. If you want to support the parish by standing order or give online, please see the Cathedral website or newsletter for more information.

13. How can I assist any “track and trace” requests? When you go home, if you can, please record your name, a contact number and the Mass you attended on the Cathedral website at: https://cathedralbrentwood.org/mass-attendee/. It is very simple to do and will only take a few moments of your time.

GENERAL NEWS

FR TOM JORDAN R.I.P. After 31 years as a priest of Brentwood Diocese, serving in Grays, Leigh on Sea, Basildon and Romford, Fr Tom sadly passed away on Wednesday 5th August. His funeral will take place at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday 19th August; however due to Covid-19 restrictions, this is by invitation only. The funeral Mass will be livestreamed, and there is also the opportunity for people to come to the parish church of St Edward the Confessor, 5 Park End Road, Romford RM1 4AT between 6pm and 9pm on Tuesday 18th August, for prayer. On Wednesday 19th everyone is warmly invited to line Park End Road as the cortege leaves the church at 12.30 p.m. Full information, including the link to the Mass, can be found at www.stedwards-romford.org.uk.

BRENTWOOD FOOD BANK Stocks are still very low at the Food Bank; goods specifically requested are instant mash, tinned potatoes, tinned meat pies, tinned goods - ham, spaghetti, hot dogs, meatballs, chicken in sauce, curries, mince onion, beef stew, beef casserole, ravioli, all day breakfast, corned beef, macaroni cheese, salmon, spaghetti bolognase, rice pudding, fruit and custard. Also, jams and spreads, washing powders, pump antibacterial soap, deodorant, shaving gel/foam
and all cleaning products (kitchen & bathroom) if you can. You are able to make donations of food at most supermarkets and at the Doddinghurst Road Community Church as well as the Council office on the Ingrave Road.

**CAFOD CORONAVIRUS APPEAL** Coronavirus (Covid-19) has now spread worldwide, with confirmed cases in several countries where CAFOD work. Its spread to countries with poor health systems will be devastating. Our local experts need your support to continue protecting lives. More details about the appeal and how you can donate can be found at cafod.org.uk. Details of the appeal are also on the Cathedral website.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK** and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Bridget Barron, Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Julia Blencowe, Ray Blencowe, Phil Carr, David, Patricia Decup, Julian Goode, Concetta Hall, Ann Hurcombe, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Brian Kelleher, Veronica Kelleher, Lawrence, Margaret MacLeay, Tony Maule, Dennis Menezes, Kath Murnane, Michael Murphy, Harry Newman, Barney O’Driscoll, Siobhan O’Leary, Steven Poole, Anne Rowe, Helena Rowe, Geraldine Sheehan, Robin Shenton, David Spring, Tim, TCT, Louisa Whitman, and all our sick in Marillac, Mascalls, Brentwood Community, The Beeches, Queens, Nuffield and Hartswood Hospitals and St Francis Hospice.


**HOLY CROSS ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: John Horgan, Alice Woods, Pete Brophy, Jim Gilmore and Kevin Motley.

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